possessing the above properties, with which it is usually combined.

As a pure tonic bitter, capable of strengthening the viscera and promoting digestion, it is entitled to rank with most articles of that kind now in use. Its character resembles that of Gentian, Quassia, and Columbo, being a simple bitter without aroma or astringency. The tincture, made by digesting half an ounce of the bruised root in eight ounces of diluted alcohol, forms a preparation of a fine yellow colour, possessing the whole bitterness of the plant. I have given it in various instances to dyspeptics and convalescents, who have generally expressed satisfaction from its effects, at least, as frequently as from other medicines of its class. A teaspoonful may be taken three times a day. In substance, it rests well on the stomach in doses of ten or twenty grains. It is however difficult to reduce to powder on account of the tenacity of its fibres.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Coptis trifolia Salisbury, *Lin. Trans.* viii. 305.—Pursh, ii. 390.—Helleborus trifolius, *sp. pl.*—Willd. ii. 1338. Kalm, *Travels*, iii. 379.—Lepech. *iter* i. 190.—Pallas, *Iter.* iii. 34.—Oeder, *F. Dan. t.* 566.—Michaux, *Fl.* i. 325.—*Amœn. Acad.* ii. 356, *t.* 4. *f.* 18.

MEDICAL REFERENCES.

Helleborus trifolius, Bart. *Coll.* Nigella.—Cutler, *Amer. Acad.* i. 457.—Thacher, *Disp.* 283.

PLATE V.

Fig. 1. *Coptis trifolia with the root, leaves, flowers and last year's fruit.*

Fig. 2. *Nectaries, stamens, and pistils magnified.*

Fig. 3. *Section of a capsule shewing the seeds.*

JACOB BIGELOW *American Medical Botany* BOSTON, 1817-1820 CARY GRAPHIC ARTS COLLECTION, ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY Octavo